

I. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces without prejudice all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-20 (Cancelled).

21. (New) A container, comprising:

a base;

a pair of opposing endwalls, each of the pair of opposing endwalls including

(i) an endwall top portion,

(ii) an endwall interior surface, the endwall interior surface including a paper sticker removal structure,

(iii) an endwall exterior surface, the endwall exterior surface including a paper sticker removal structure, and

(iv) an endwall support surface located on the endwall top portion;

a pair of opposing sidewalls, each of the pair of opposing sidewalls including

(i) a sidewall top wall portion, and

(ii) a sidewall interior surface, the sidewall interior surface including a paper sticker removal structure,

(iii) a sidewall exterior surface, the sidewall exterior surface including a paper sticker removal structure, wherein

the paper sticker removal structures on the interior and exterior surfaces of the endwalls and sidewalls are configured to facilitate removal of the stickers,

(iv) an outer pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding sidewall top portion,

(v) an inner pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding sidewall top portion, and

(vi) a pair of receptacles, wherein each receptacle includes an opening; and a pair of bail arms, each bail arm including

(i) a pair of receptacle engaging portions that are rotationally received within the corresponding receptacle of each of the opposing sidewalls,

(ii) a pair of crank members located adjacent to the corresponding receptacle engaging portions, and

(iii) an engaging portion located between each of a respective pair of crank members,

wherein when the engaging portions of the bail arms are placed on the corresponding endwall support surfaces, the container is configured to stack a second identical container in nested position, and

the bail arms being configured such that

(i) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding inner pairs of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a first stacking position that is higher than the nested position, and

(ii) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding outer pairs of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a second stacking position that is higher than the nested position and different than the first stacking position.

22. (New) The container according to claim 21, wherein the paper sticker removal structures each comprise a plurality of raised areas and a plurality of depressed areas.

23. (New) The container according to claim 21, wherein the paper sticker removal structures each comprise:

a plurality of micro-bumps.

24. (New) The container according to claim 23, wherein each of the plurality of bail arms includes a plurality of micro-bumps.

25. (New) A container, comprising:
a base;
a pair of opposing endwalls, each of the pair of opposing endwalls including
 (i) an endwall top portion,
 (ii) an endwall interior surface,
 (iii) an endwall exterior surface, and
 (iv) an endwall support surface located on the endwall top portion, wherein
the endwall support surface further includes
 a bail arm lock structure;
a pair of opposing sidewalls, each of the pair of opposing sidewalls including
 (i) a sidewall top wall portion,
 (ii) a sidewall interior surface,
 (iii) a sidewall exterior surface,
 (iv) an outer pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding
sidewall top portion,
 (v) an inner pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding
sidewall top portion, and
 (vi) a pair of receptacles, wherein each receptacle includes an opening;
a pair of bail arms, each of the bail arms including
 (i) a pair of receptacle engaging portions that are rotationally received
within the corresponding receptacle of each of the opposing sidewall,
 (ii) a pair of crank members located adjacent to the receptacle engaging
portions, and
 (iii) an engaging portion located between each of a respective pair of crank
members, wherein

when the engaging portions of each of the bail arms are placed on the corresponding endwall support surfaces, the container is configured to stack a second identical container in nested position, and further wherein

the bail arm lock structure is configured to substantially prevent the bail arm from moving inadvertently when the bail arm is substantially locked by the bail arm lock structure.

26. (New) The container according to claim 25, wherein the bail arm lock structure comprises:

at least a first bail arm lock that is substantially vertical, and wherein the first bail arm lock includes

a bail arm lock interior surface with a radius of curvature substantially equal to a radius of the bail arm, and

a bail arm lock vertical portion that rises to a height above the endwall support surface that is at least as high as the radius of the bail arm.

27. (New) The container according to claim 26, wherein the bail arm lock vertical portion rises to a height above the endwall support surface that is between about 50% and about 75% as high as the diameter of the bail arm.

28. (New) The container according to claim 25, wherein the bail arm structure comprises:

at least a first bail arm lock that is substantially vertical, and wherein the first bail arm lock includes

a bail arm lock interior surface with a radius of curvature substantially equal to a radius of the bail arm, and

a bail arm lock vertical portion that rises to a height above the endwall support surface that is at least as high as a centerline of the bail arm.

29. (New) The container according to claim 28, wherein the bail arm lock vertical portion rises to a height above the endwall upper surface that is between about 100% and about 150% as high as the centerline of the bail arm.

30. (New) The container according to claim 25, wherein the bail arms are configured such that

(i) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding inner pair of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a first stacking position that is higher than the nested position, and

(ii) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding outer pair of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a second stacking position that is higher than the nested position and different than the first stacking position.

31. (New) A container, comprising:

a base;

a pair of opposing endwalls, each of the pair of opposing endwalls including

(i) an endwall top portion,

(ii) an endwall interior surface,

(iii) an endwall exterior surface, and

(iv) an endwall support surface located on the endwall top portion;

a pair of opposing sidewalls, each of the pair of opposing sidewalls including

(i) a sidewall top portion, and

(ii) a sidewall interior surface,

(iii) a sidewall exterior surface,

(iv) at least one interior step surface and at least one exterior step surface,

and

(v) corresponding interior and exterior step ledges extending from their respective interior and exterior step surfaces, wherein

the corresponding combinations of interior step surfaces and step ledges and exterior step surfaces and step ledges are configured to provide support for a

second identical container nested in the container by supporting an exterior step ledge of the second container upon an interior step ledge of the container;

(vi) an outer pair of notches extending downwardly from a corresponding sidewall top portion,

(vii) an inner pair of notches extending downwardly from a corresponding sidewall top portion, and

(viii) a pair of receptacles, wherein each receptacle includes an opening; and a pair of bail arms, each bail arm including

(i) a pair of receptacle engaging portions that are rotationally received within the corresponding receptacle of each of the opposing sidewall,

(ii) a pair of crank members located adjacent to the receptacle engaging portions, and

(iii) an engaging portion located between each of a respective pair of crank members,

wherein when the engaging portions of the bail arms are placed on the respective endwall support surfaces, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in nested position, and

the bail arms being configured such that

(i) when the bail arms are placed in the inner pair of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a first stacking position that is higher than the nested position, and

(ii) when the bail arms are placed in the outer pair of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a second stacking position that is higher than the nested position and different than the first stacking position.

32. (New) A method of stacking a plurality of containers, comprising:

(a) determining whether to stack a second container in a fully nested configuration or a partially nested configuration or an un-nested configuration with respect to a first container;

(b) interfacing a container sidewall interlock system of the second container with a container sidewall interlock system of the first container when stacking the containers in either of the fully nested configuration or the partially nested configuration;

(c) interfacing a pair of bail arms on the first container with a pair of bail arm grooves on the second container when stacking the containers in either the partially nested configuration or the un-nested configuration; and

(d) obtaining an additional container, and repeating steps (b) and (c) with respect to the additional container and the previously stacked container until there are no remaining additional containers to be stacked.

33. (New) An automated bail arm placement system, comprising:

a link arm assembly configured to interface with a plurality of bail arms on a plurality of containers;

a memory configured to store a set of instructions; and

a processor configured to process the set of instructions wherein the link arm assembly interfaces with the plurality of bail arms to move at least one bail arm from any position to any other position.

34. (New) A method for automatically moving a plurality of bail arms on a container, comprising:

positioning a container, the container including a plurality of bail arms, proximal to an automated bail arm placement system;

interfacing a link arm assembly with at least one of the bail arms; and

moving at least one of the bail arms from any position to any other position.

35. (New) A container, comprising:

a base, the base including an upper surface;

a pair of opposing endwalls, each of the pair of opposing endwalls including

(i) an endwall top portion,

(ii) an endwall interior surface,

- (iii) an endwall exterior surface,
- (iv) an endwall support surface located on the endwall top portion;
- (v) a beveled ledge located on an endwall interior surface; and
- (vi) a substantially horizontally oriented opening located substantially centrally on a lower portion of the endwall at or below the beveled edge;

a pair of opposing sidewalls, each of the pair of opposing sidewalls including

- (i) a sidewall top portion,
- (ii) a sidewall interior surface,
- (iii) a sidewall exterior surface,
- (iv) an outer pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding sidewall top portion,
- (v) an inner pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding sidewall top portion, and
- (vi) a pair of receptacles, wherein each of the receptacles includes an opening; and

a pair of bail arms, each bail arm including

- (i) a pair of receptacle engaging portions that are rotationally received within the corresponding receptacle of the opposing sidewalls,
- (ii) a pair of crank members located adjacent to each of a corresponding receptacle engaging portions, and
- (iii) an engaging portion located between each of a respective pair of crank members,

wherein when the engaging portions of the bail arms are placed on the corresponding endwall support surface, the container is configured to stack a second identical container in nested position, and

the bail arms being configured such that

- (i) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding inner pairs of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a first stacking position that is higher than the nested position, and

(ii) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding outer pairs of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a second stacking position that is higher than the nested position and at a position different than first stacking position, and

wherein the beveled ledge located on the endwall interior surface and the substantially horizontally oriented openings located substantially centrally on a lower portion of the endwall at or below the beveled edge are configured to

provide a partially enclosed path to circulate air from a first endwall to a second endwall through a plurality of trays located on the upper surface of the base.

36. (New) A container, comprising:

a base;

a pair of opposing endwalls, each of the pair of opposing endwalls including

- (i) an endwall top portion,
- (ii) an endwall interior surface,
- (iii) an endwall exterior surface, and
- (iv) an endwall support surface located on the endwall top portion;

a pair of opposing sidewalls, each of the pair of opposing sidewalls including

- (i) a sidewall top portion,
- (ii) a sidewall interior surface,
- (iii) a sidewall exterior surface,
- (iv) an outer pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding

sidewall top portion,

(v) an inner pair of notches extending downwardly from the corresponding sidewall top portion,

(vi) a pair of receptacles, wherein each receptacle includes an opening,

(vii) a plurality of handles openings, the handle openings located substantially centrally on each of the sidewalls and at an upper portion of each of the sidewalls,

(viii) a plurality of lifting areas, wherein

the lifting areas are located above the plurality of handle openings on each of the sidewalls on an interior surface of each of the sidewalls, and wherein the lifting areas include

a sloped surface of the sidewall, and

a plurality of finger recess areas located adjacent the sloped surface of the surface of the sidewall, wherein,

the sloped surface of the sidewall and plurality of finger recesses are configured to provide an ergonomic gripping surface for a user to grip and lift the container;

a pair of bail arms, each bail arm including

(i) a pair of receptacle engaging portions that are rotationally received within the corresponding receptacle of the opposing sidewalls,

(ii) a pair of crank members located adjacent to each of a corresponding receptacle engaging portions, and

(iii) an engaging portion located between each of a respective pair of crank members,

wherein when the engaging portions of the bail arms are placed on the corresponding endwall support surface, the container is configured to stack a second identical container in nested position, and

the bail arms being configured such that

(i) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding inner pairs of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a first stacking position that is higher than the nested position, and

(ii) when the bail arms are placed in the corresponding outer pairs of notches, the container is configured to stack the second identical container in a second stacking position that is higher than the nested position and at a position different than first stacking position